

Mapline

*A quarterly newsletter published by
The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography
at The Newberry Library*

Number 29 March 1983

David Buisseret and Robert Karrow, *Editors*

An Ethiopian Mountain in Maps and Literature

Before the Portuguese diplomatic expedition of 1520, Ethiopia was an enchanted repository of the wonders of Africa. An imaginary account might put together an itinerary that included the site of the Earthly Paradise, a lake of burning rock, and a stream of precious jewels. Perhaps the dog-faced men would be met, or a sciapod would be observed reclining with his large single foot held above him as a parasol. Finally there might be a visit to the court of Prester John. He was not only the most powerful monarch on earth but a Christian as well, and he would gladly lend his vast armies in the struggle against Islam. All that a European king needed to do was to ask him.

Though the Portuguese found a very diminished version of the legendary Prester John, they learned of

other matters that were no less remarkable than some of the marvels of fabulous lore. Francisco Alvares, chaplain of the embassy, heard reports of a mountain fortress in which the sons of Prester John were incarcerated at an early age in order to forestall threats of conspiracy. While traveling one day through rugged terrain of the interior, he passed within sight of the mountain, which seemed to shoot up like a great "wall" of rock, so that "if a man goes to the foot of it and looks upward, it seems that the sky rests upon it." Alvares was thus willing to credit almost anything volunteered about its size and composition. He was told that it would take a journey of fifteen days to trace its circumference. It reputedly spread into two Ethiopian kingdoms, one of which was "Amara" that



Dog-faced man, sciapod, and man-woman, from Nuremberg Chronicle, 1493

The Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography

Director: **David Buisseret**

The Center was founded in 1972 at The Newberry Library to promote the study of the history of cartography through research projects, fellowships, courses of instruction, and publications. Further information is available on request.

Mapline is published four times a year in March, June, September, and December. Annual Subscription: \$5.00. Back issues (as available) \$1.00 each. Please address all correspondence to the editor at The Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610. ISSN 0196-0881

protective custody. When these features disappear from maps in the late seventeenth century, it is not because of skepticism but rather because of reported change in Ethiopian policy itself. The practice of incarcerating the princes had been discontinued when the Jesuit missionaries arrived in the latter sixteenth century, although it was afterwards revived using other locations. Hiob Ludolf's map of 1683, reflecting new information from the Jesuit reports, consequently notes that the princes are no longer kept on the mountain.

The period between Gastaldi and Telles also witnessed a surge of myth-making about the mountain that was worthy of Medieval journeys to the Earthly Paradise. Indeed the old legend of an Ethiopian site of Paradise was imposed on Mount Amara in popular compendia of travels and geography. Both this written tradition of myth and the map image regarding Mount Amara are represented in John Milton's *Paradise Lost* (1674):

...where *Abassin* Kings thir issue Guard,
Mount *Amara*, though this by some suppos'd
True Paradise under the *Ethiop* Line
By *Nilus* head, enclos'd with shining Rock,
A whole day's journey high. . .
(Book IV, ll. 280-84)

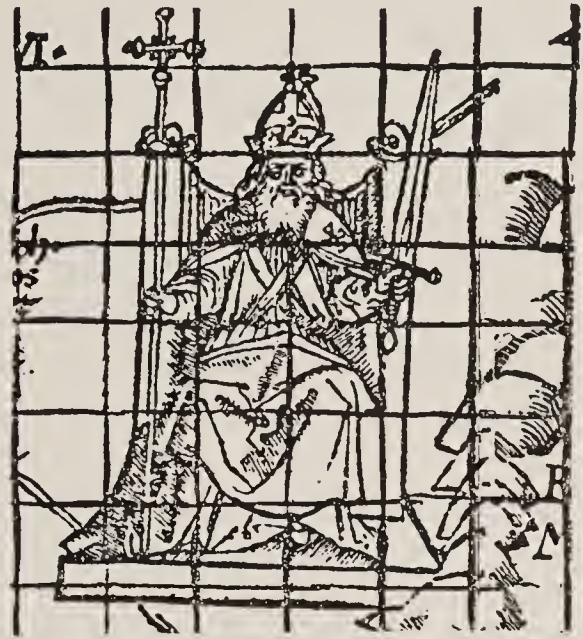
Except for recognizing the written myth in order to deny it, most of this passage might be correlated to Gastaldi's maps of 1550 and 1564. As we recall, the mountain is placed "under" the equinoctial line in each of the maps. Milton's opening expression is virtually the gloss that is stylized by the 1564 map and



Detail from Gastaldi/Forlani map showing Monte Amara.
Photo by F. Peter Weil.

that is iterated by other cartographers. In Livio Sanuto's map of 1588, Gastaldi's configuration of the mountain is altered into a kind of beehive having three entrances that suggests Milton's idea of an enclosure "with shining rock."

The most elaborate and complex use of both the written myth and the map image occurs in Samuel Johnson's *Rasselas* (1759). We may briefly consider a single aspect here. In the first chapter, it is related that the young Ethiopian prince Rasselas is "confined in a private palace, with the other sons and daughters of Abissinian royalty, till the order of succession should call him to the throne." Again we are reading almost a



direct adaptation of the gloss that accompanies the depiction of the mountain of Amara on maps from Gastaldi to Telles, especially those of the early and mid-seventeenth century which add that the purpose of the confinement was to ensure an orderly succession. Johnson never allows an exterior glimpse of the mountain and instead describes a lofty valley in the "kingdom of Amhara" that is surrounded by overhanging peaks. This place is called the "happy valley," an appellation that arises in the second chapter from the inhabitants themselves.

Even before *Rasselas* was written, Mount Amara had joined other map images of Ethiopia like Ptolemy's two huge lakes and Mountains of the Moon as the antiques of early exploration and Classical geography. *Rasselas* is much more of a historical novel than we might suspect, and Johnson's portrayal of the mountain is in the twilight of its recognition. Its proper name in cartography by his time was Amba Geshen, and it had shrunk in size to a point where it was lost among the rugged topography of the Amhara region.

Richard Eversole

Richard Eversole is Associate Professor of English at the University of Kansas/Lawrence. He is working on a book concerned with Rasselas, and is writing the essays on maps in literature for volumes II and III of the multi-volume History of Cartography edited by Harley and Woodward. Dr. Eversole was a participant at the 1982 NEH-funded Summer Institute in Cartography held at the Newberry.

SEVENTH SERIES OF NEBENZAHL LECTURES

The Seventh Kenneth Nebenzahl, Jr., lecture series is due to take place this fall, on October 27th, 28th and 29th. There will be seven lecturers, and the theme will be "maps in the making: the manuscript and other sources of printed maps." The speakers will draw their subjects from widely differing times and places, beginning with 16th-century England and ending with the south-western United States in the 19th century. Readers of *Mapline* will receive full details with the poster, which will accompany the June issue.

Symposium held at Arlington, Texas

On February 9th a symposium, "Mapping the American Southwest," was held at the University of Texas at Arlington. The four speakers dealt with various aspects of the mapping of this area, from the 16th to the 19th century, a theme which was illustrated by the concurrent exhibition in the Jenkins Garrett and Cartographic History Libraries. The proceedings of this symposium are due to be published, and enquiries about this publication should be sent to: Charles C. Colley, Director of Special Collections, P.O. Box 19497, The University of Texas at Arlington Library, Arlington, Texas 76010.

Grant for Preserving Maps and Newspapers

The University of Washington Libraries in Seattle has been awarded a \$250,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to preserve maps and newspapers important to the historical study of the Pacific Northwest region, and to make the materials more accessible to scholars.

The 15-month project will include preservation of approximately 5,000 historically significant map sheets produced between the years 1552 and 1939. Each map will be individually inspected and treated with such preservation measures as cleaning, deacidification, mending of tears, mylar encapsulation, storage in acid-free folders and housing in modern metal map cases. The need for the preservation of historic maps was established in 1981 following an evaluation of the physical condition of the Libraries' collections.

The newspaper component of the project will include microfilming backfiles of Pacific Northwest newspapers, cataloging the microfilm, indexing articles of regional importance and compiling a bibliography of the Libraries' Pacific Northwest newspaper holdings.

Director of the project is Gary L. Menges, Associate Director of Libraries, Public Services. Assisting Menges in the map preservation project will be Steve Hiller, Map Librarian, and Sandra Kroupa, Rare Books Specialist. The preservation work will be done in the Libraries' in-house repair unit under the direction of a preservation specialist hired for the project.

Russian Cartography of America

Dee Longenbaugh, proprietor of The Observatory ("Rare and common books, maps and prints"), P.O. Box 1770, Sitka, Alaska 99835, writes to the Chicago Map Society about her research interests in the Russian Cartography of America to 1778. She knows about Fisher, *Semen Deshnev*; Neatby, *Discoveries in Russian and Siberian Waters*; Markham, *The Lands of Silence*; Golder, *Bering's Voyages*; Muller, *Voyages from Asia to America*; Wagner, *Cartography of the Northwest Coast of America to 1800*; and Bagrow, *Russian Cartography to the Year 1800*, but has had a difficult time locating reference works in Sitka. She writes, "I have the maps, as that is my business, but it's exceedingly hard to find the books," adding that she would appreciate receiving references to other works and would enjoy correspondence on the topic. We take the liberty of extending to all *Mapline* readers her invitation to stop in at her shop the next time they get to Sitka.



The Increasing Cost of Michigan Maps

Everyone knows that over the past decade prices have risen at an unusually high rate. In fact, the figure approaches nearly 90%. Everyone also realizes that this inflation has hit some commodities particularly hard, while leaving others nearly untouched. What, then, is the case with respect to antiquarian maps? Anyone who has bought such records lately knows that they have been increasing in cost. But how does this advance in price compare to other items in the marketplace? Have old maps risen in value at the same rate as everything else, or at a slower or faster pace?

To find the answers to these questions I consulted the catalogs that forty-five dealers in rare maps have issued since 1950. Twenty percent of these dealers were from Michigan, twelve and a half percent from New York City, and the remainder from various places around North America and England. My methodology was to look in each catalog for mention of a Michigan map, and then record details about the sheet or atlas each time one was discovered. When a particular map had been offered for sale at least four times over a period of twenty years, this information was plotted on a graph so that monetary trends could be discerned. Of the 184 different Michigan maps that have been placed on the market since 1950, only five were advertised with sufficient frequency to qualify for this treatment. The patterns revealed are quite interesting, and probably reflect trends in the antiquarian map trade as a whole.

Beginning this exploration of cartographic price increases is a creation attributable to the Red Coats taking what is now Michigan away from the French in 1760. Shortly after the Union Jack was hoisted over our state, the first British map of Michigan was published. The work, showing the eastern end of the Upper Peninsula, appeared in the *London Magazine* during 1761 (#3524 in volume 5, Karrow). Henry Stevens, of Surrey, England, offered this in 1965 hoping to fetch \$15, and did so again three years later for a return of \$22.50. By 1977 the map was apparently more valuable, for K.S. Kapp, of Osprey, Florida, was asking \$135, and four years later felt justified in calling for \$245.

The second work to figure in this project is entitled "Map of Detroit River and Adjacent Country" (#0786 in volume 5, Karrow). The sheet appeared as plate 4 in John Melish's *Military and Topographical Atlas of the United States*, which he published at Philadelphia in 1813. According to *American Book Prices Current*, this map was removed from its bindings and sold in 1931 for \$10. By 1958 Argosy Book Store in New York City was asking \$35, a rather modest increase over the

intervening twenty-seven years. However, just eight years later Walter Reuben, of Austin, Texas, was seeking \$345 for the same document, a figure that was substantially bettered in 1979 when W. Graham Arader quoted \$575. The highest price asked so far was by Kenneth Nebenzahl, who listed the map in 1980 for \$750.

Another delineation to qualify for inclusion in this study appeared in July of 1822 as the first map to show Michigan independent of other states. This work appeared as plate 36 in Carey and Lea's *Complete Historical Chronological and Geographical Atlas* (#1949 in volume 5, Karrow), and it presents a highly distorted view of our two peninsulas. This sheet was sold in 1945 by Parke-Bernet Galleries in New York for \$5. The next quotation I have been able to find is from the Argosy Book Store in 1960 for \$15. Prices began to accelerate a little in 1973 when Richard Fitch, of Santa Fe, announced a worth of \$65. Five years later the Old Print Gallery in Washington, D.C., raised the ante to \$175, and by 1979 W. Graham Arader listed the work for \$400. The highest figure to date also belongs to Mr. Arader, who cited the map in a 1980 catalog at \$475.

What the Carey and Lea portrayal of Michigan lacked in accuracy, it must have made up for in visual appeal. Three years after the map was introduced to Americans, it appeared on the Continent in French and German atlases (#1953 in volume 5, Karrow). In 1958 the Argosy Book Store listed the work for \$25. Eleven years later Kenneth Nebenzahl was selling the same sheet for only \$5 more. By 1973, however, Henry Stevens was seeking \$65 for the map, and the figure had increased to \$90 by 1977 in the catalog of Richard Fitch.

The last map in this study was published in 1846 by Samuel Mitchell. In that year this Philadelphia printer offered *A New Universal Atlas* to the public, with Michigan depicted on page 29 (#2002 in volume 5, Karrow). The Argosy Book Store, in 1961, asked \$5 for the sheet. By 1971 L.S. Straight, of New York City, had appraised the map's worth at \$22.50, and Richard Fitch agreed with this assessment in 1974. Just three years later, however, Mr. Fitch had jumped the price to \$35, and in 1981 Broadfoot's Bookmark, of Wendell, North Carolina, listed the work for \$50.

Judging from the examples presented it is obvious that inflation has caused the value of maps to rise. However, since the rate of this price increase has far exceeded advances in the cost of living, other factors must also be at work. Surely some additional influences are the increasing numbers of collectors and dealers in quest of fewer and fewer maps. For example, since 1954 the Special Libraries Association has published three directories of *Map Collections in the United States and Canada*. These reference tools show that the number of map repositories in North America is increasing at an average rate of eleven per year. Consequently, there are fifty-four percent more map col-

lections today than there were about thirty years ago.

On the selling side, the Chicago Map Society has published two *World Directories of Dealers in Antiquarian Maps*, one in 1977 and another in 1980. While the spacing of this sample leaves much to be desired, it does give evidence of an increase in the number of North American businesses seeking and selling maps. Since there is no evidence that these trends will change soon, it is safe to assume that Michigan maps, and probably those of other states as well, will continue to rise in value at an average rate of over 10% per year. In short — given their track record as summarized in this study — maps are one of the best investments on the Antiquarian market today, deserving serious attention from the cartophile and document speculator.

Robert W. Karrow, Jr., general editor, *Checklist of Printed Maps of the Middle West, Vol. 5*, Boston: G.K. Hall & Co.

LeRoy Barnett

Mr. Barnett is Reference Archivist for the Michigan State Archives, and the compiler of the Michigan volume of the Checklist.



Calendar

5 March

New York Map Society. Topic: In Search of the Northwest Passage (Carole A. Dmytryshak, 118 East 19th St., New York, NY 10003)

10-12 March

International Symposium on Maps and Graphics for the Visually Handicapped, Dupont Plaza Hotel, Washington, DC (Patricia J. McWethy, Executive Director, AAG, 1710 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20009)

21 March

Newberry Library Associates lecture. Michael P. Conzen on "Historical County Atlases and the American Dream." (The Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610)

2 April

New York Map Society. Topic: U. S. Wall Maps of the Nineteenth Century (Carole A. Dmytryshak, 118 East 19th St., New York, NY 10003)

24-27 April

Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Hilton Hotel, Denver, CO (Patricia J. McWethy, Executive Director, AAG, 1710 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20009)

28-29 April

Mapping the North American Plains, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588-0314)

7 May

New York Map Society day trip to the John Carter Brown Library, Providence (Carole A. Dmytryshak, 118 East 19th St., New York, NY 10003)

4 June

New York Map Society. Topic: Another Look at Holy Land Maps (Carole A. Dmytryshak, 118 East 19th St., New York, NY 10003)

4-9 June

Special Libraries Association, Geography and Map Division, New Orleans (Marsha Selmer, Map Library, University of Illinois at Chicago, Box 8198, Chicago, IL 60680)

19-26 June

International Congress on the Portuguese Discoveries and Renaissance Europe, Lisbon (The Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of Portugal, 2310 Tracy Pl. NW, Washington, DC 20008)

26 June-1 July

American Library Association, Map and Geography Round Table, Los Angeles (Alice Hudson, Map Division, New York Public Library, Fifth Ave. and 42nd St., New York, NY 10018)

3-8 July

Fourth International Congress on the History of Navigation and Hydrography, Sagres, Portugal (The Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of Portugal, 2310 Tracy Pl. NW, Washington, DC 20008)

29 August-2 September

Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography, Dublin (Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography, 12 Pembroke Park, Dublin 4, Ireland)

20-22 October

North American Cartographic Information Society, Milwaukee, (Donald Daidone, Newman Library, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061)



Annual Conference of the Australian Map Curators' Circle

We have received the programme of the Australian Map Curators' Circle for their annual meeting, held at the University of Melbourne early in February. Many of the papers concerned aspects of modern cartography, but one or two looked to be of interest to historians of mapping, in particular the one by Dr. W.A.R. Richardson entitled "Is 'Jave-la-Grande' Australia? The place name evidence."

AGM of the Society for the History of Discoveries

This meeting took place at Madison, Wisconsin, on November 4th, 5th and 6th. The two main events outside the papers were the dedication of the Arthur H. Robinson Map Library at the Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin (Madison), and the visit to the library of the American Geographical Society in Milwaukee. Here the staff had arranged a splendid informal exhibition of maps, many of which made visitors resolve to return and work there. The papers covered, as usual, a wide variety of themes, many of which involved a consideration of maps; there was indeed, a whole session devoted to new research on the Vinland Map. Of particular interest to this Library was the Council's decision, taken at the meeting, that *Terrae Incognitae*, the Society's journal, would in future be based at the Newberry and edited by David Buisseret. Local arrangements were in the hands of David Woodward and Mo Reilly, both of whom accomplished marvels in handling a meeting whose numbers were greater than had been expected.



The *Bibliographie d'histoire de la géographie et de la géographie historique* for 1979 has come our way. Edited out of the Map Room at the Bibliothèque Nationale, it is a beautifully produced summary of recent work in these fields, grouped into very interesting subject areas. This bibliography is now in its fourth year in this form; present and previous volumes may be ordered from Bibliothèque Nationale, 58 rue de Richelieu, 75084 Paris CEDEX 02.

NEW JOURNAL

The History of Earth Sciences Society has announced the publication (in December 1982) of volume one of a new journal, *Earth Sciences History*. It is said to be the only journal specifically concerned with this discipline and aims to interpret "earth sciences" in the broadest possible way. The prospectus goes on to say "the history of the more classic subdivisions of geology and geophysics will provide the majority of works; all phases of historical inquiry including biography, instrumentation, development of institutions, and scientific concepts will be included." The journal is to be refereed and subscriptions are \$20 per year. The 1982 volume included one issue; the 1983 volume will contain two issues. Volume one includes articles on "The Logic of Discovery in Geology"; "Women in Paleontology in the United States, 1840-1960"; "The Cincinnati 'School' of Paleontology"; "Douglass Houghton, Michigan's First State Geologist"; and "Paleontology in the United States Federal Service, 1804-1904."

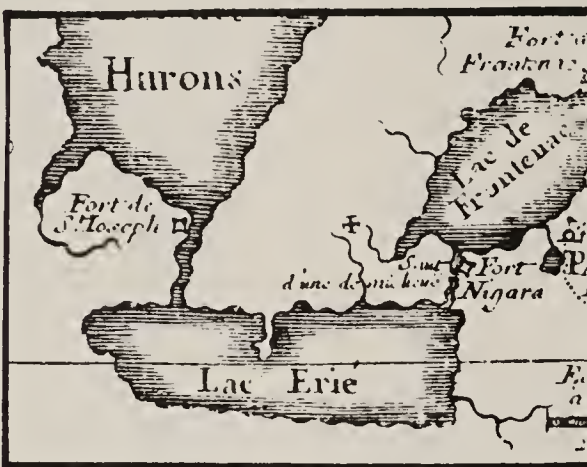
For more information, subscriptions, and memberships in the Society, write to H.E.S.S., care of E. Yochelson, E-501, Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, 20560.

Carto Techniques III

The Ontario Institute of Chartered Cartographers and the Cartographic Committee of the Canadian Institute of Surveying will be holding a series of joint cartographic seminars and workshops at Sir Sandford Fleming College, School of Natural Resources, Lindsay, Ontario. The seminars are scheduled for May 30, 31, and June 1, 1983. Topics will include Cartography (Thematic, Topographic, Urban & Automated), Surveying, Photogrammetry, Geographic and Geophysical Information, and Remote Sensing. The O.I.C.C. will be offering accreditation in select seminars and workshops as part of its certification program. Tuition fees are tentatively set at \$100.00. Meals and lodging are separate.

The O.I.C.C. and C.I.S. will be encouraging displays from academic institutions, government agencies, private companies, and soliciting commercial exhibitors to participate in the conference. For more information contact:

Mrs. Zita Devan
Conference Centre
Sir Sandford Fleming College
School of Natural Resources
Box 8000
Lindsay, Ontario, K9V 5E6



Le Prix de Lac Erié

The European discovery of Lake Erie, especially its western extremities together with Lake St. Clair, is usually attributed to Adrien Jolliet (1669) or René Bréhant de Galinée and François Dollier de Casson (1669-1670). Yet the writings of the Jesuits (1640-1648) and the cartography of Nicolas Sanson (1650), suggest that these were not the first Europeans who passed along the shores of the Lake.

A prize of \$1000 (U.S.) is payable to the first person who provides acceptable documentary proof of European discovery before 1650. "Discovery" is defined as the gathering of geographical information by an individual or group in an area hitherto unknown to that group and the presentation of that information in such a manner that there is no doubt what that discovery was.

Le Prix de Lac Erié is offered under the auspices of Bowling Green State University. Submissions should be in the form of an essay supported by photocopies of documents or any other evidence. If there is no acceptable winner by December 31, 1983, Le Prix de Lac Erié will be withdrawn. Submissions will be judged by:

- E. H. Dahl, National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario;
- C.E. Heidenreich, York University, Downsview, Ontario;
- R.J. Wright, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

Submissions should be sent to:

C.E. Heidenreich
Department of Geography
York University
4700 Keele Street
Downsview, Ontario
M3J 1P3 Canada

Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography

Preparations are well advanced for this conference, which will be held at Trinity College, University of Dublin, from 29 August to 2 September. The meeting will give priority to discussing four topics: the cartographer's methods and sources, colonial cartography, agrarian cartography and the history of map

collecting. There will be exhibitions, excursions and social events in addition to the discussion sessions. Conference address for all correspondence: Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography, 12 Pembroke Park, Dublin 4, Ireland.

Progress on the History of Cartography

On November 2nd, 3rd and 4th, there was a conference at Wingspread, the Johnson Foundation house at Racine (Wisconsin), for contributors to volumes I and II of the *History of Cartography*. Joint editors Brian Harley and David Woodward animated a number of lively sessions, at which contributors discussed not only their own progress, but also various themes and principles which it was felt that the *History* should follow. There was, for instance, much discussion about the titles for the volumes, in which the general feeling was that it was necessary to avoid such "Eurocentric" titles as "Renaissance" and "Enlightenment," if the volumes were to achieve the desirable level of universality. Of course, no binding decisions were taken in this respect, but the editors were glad of the chance to work these questions over with contributors, who in turn were heartened to share their problems and progress with others, in the incomparable setting offered by Wingspread.

Recent Publications

Carter, John Swain, *American Traders in European Ports: The Alexander O. Viator Collection of Ship Portraits, Charts and Related Material*. Salem, Mass.: Peabody Museum, 1982. (\$14.45)

While serving as Curator of Maps at Yale University from 1946 to 1978, Alexander Viator pursued a lifelong collecting interest in American shipping. After his death in 1981, Viator's collection went to the Peabody Museum of Salem and the present catalog includes representative items from his collection. Of particular interest to Mapline readers will be the section "Charts and Maps," which lists eight maps of American maritime interest, including maps by Seller, Dudley, Fisher and Mount, and Blunt. The maps are briefly described and illustrated with small but very fine reproductions by the Meriden Gravure Company.

Cuff, David J. and Mattson, Mark T. *Thematic Maps: Their Design and Production*. New York and London: Methuen, 1982. (\$14.95, Methuen, 733 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017)

Intended as "a text for an introductory course in thematic mapping" and published with an instructor's manual (not seen by this reviewer), Cuff and Mattson have produced a sound, well-organized, and clearly illustrated guide. They acknowledge a special debt to Alan Hodgkiss, whose Maps for

Books and Theses dealt with the creation of low-tech, black-and-white maps, and the same spirit pervades this volume. The book is organized in three sections: "Graphic and Verbal Content," "Presentation of the map" (i.e., layout and composition), and "Reproduction and production." The discussions are clear and well supported by over 150 illustrations and good bibliographies. This should be an effective textbook for beginning cartography students, and one suspects that many working cartographers will want to have a copy near by as well.

Ehrenberg, Ralph E. *Archives & Manuscripts: Maps and Architectural Drawings*. Chicago: Society of American Archivists (330 South Wells Street, Suite 810, 60606), 1982.

Intended "primarily as a general reference work for the archivist who lacks specialized training but who requires some knowledge of maps, architectural drawings, and related materials such as aerial photographs," this manual contains much of interest to map librarians and collectors as well. Librarians and archivists have for too long ignored each other's work, but Ralph Ehrenberg, formerly chief of the Cartographic and Architectural Archives Division at the National Archives and now assistant chief of the Geography and Map Division at the Library of Congress, is one of the few people able to bridge the gap. This manual is succinct, very well illustrated, and full of thought-provoking ideas about the recording and preserving of cartographic information. Perhaps map librarians especially should study this manual, since many of the techniques which archivists have evolved for describing groups of materials would seem to be more and more applicable in this age of information overload. There are many maps in our libraries which do not require full individual cataloging and this manual gives a number of examples of other kinds of control which may be adequate for retrieval purposes.

Farrell, Barbara and Aileen Desbarats, *Guide For a Small Map Collection*. Ottawa: Association of Canadian Map Libraries, 1981. (\$12.50 from ACML, c/o National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N3)

This guide aims to provide "just enough information and advice to get the newcomers [to map librarianship] started at a level of operation consistent with the needs of a small collection, but not to confuse them with too much detail." The Guide meets that goal beautifully. It is a marvelously compact and usable compendium, chock-full of essential facts and down-to-earth advice of a very refreshing kind. The first chapter deals with assessment of the collection and institution, and

contains a wonderful section on cautions: "Take no precipitous action, particularly of the sort that requires reorganization. The wrong decision at this stage can later mean endless work to correct the results, as many before you have found to their cost. Whatever the level of chaos, or the degree of perceived urgency in the inherited situation, do not: rearrange maps, change the classification to a more rational system, rearrange map cabinets, order new maps, order more map cabinets, discard any maps." This sort of concise, practical information is obviously distilled from many years of experience by map librarians, and its brief presentation in this guide, which can be read thoroughly in a couple of hours, should be very useful, and not only for small collections. One can imagine this guide serving as an excellent introduction for, for instance, new student employees, working in even a large map collection. This is a valuable contribution to map librarianship which should be widely studied and used.

Green, Lewis. *The Boundary Hunters: Surveying the 141st Meridian and the Alaska Panhandle*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1982. (\$18.95, University of British Columbia Press, 2075 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1W5)

The Boundary between Alaska and Canada is based on the terms of an 1825 treaty between Russia and Great Britain. Green covers the diplomatic history of the boundary in two chapters, but most of the volume is devoted to attempts, from 1869 to 1913, to mark the line on the ground. Despite its remoteness, the boundary line ran through an area enlivened by the Klondike and other gold rushes around the turn of the century, and there were immediate and practical consequences to both countries which attended the fixing of the line. Although the official settlement, by the Alaska Boundary Tribunal in 1903, was highly unpopular in Canada, Green shows how the work of the international surveying parties from 1904-13 was characterized by friendly cooperation, symbolized by the two party chiefs taking a dip in the Arctic Ocean after fixing monument number one in 1912. It is an interesting story technically, combining descriptions of sophisticated surveying using telegraphy and photographic triangulation with travel by horse, boat, and on foot in a manner that would have been typical over much of North America fifty years earlier. Green's explanations of technical matters are brief and clear and a valuable part of the book, which is further enhanced by fifty-three well-selected photographs, ten maps, and an index. His quotations from contemporary letters and diaries help make this well-documented account entertaining and readable.

Martis, Kenneth C. *The Historical Atlas of the United States Congressional Districts, 1789-1983*. New York and London: The Free Press, 1982. (\$150.00; Macmillan Publishing Company Inc., 866 Third Avenue, New York, 10022)

Based on "The Atlas of Congressional Roll Calls," a W.P.A. project curtailed by the outbreak of World War II, Kenneth Martis has prepared for the first time a series of maps at uniform scale showing the congressional districts for every congress from the first, in 1789, through the ninety-seventh in 1981-83. These 97 maps, clearly drawn in black and white and with insets as needed to show the congressional districts in urban areas, comprise the bulk of the volume. Opposite each map is an alphabetical list of all the members of that Congress with their state and congressional district listed. A full alphabetical index to members of Congress follows at the back of the volume. Those wishing to know exactly which counties, wards, parishes, boroughs, and municipalities are contained in a given district, can refer to part III which gives legal descriptions of the districts by state. Here is the raw material for mapping a host of topics in American history: distribution of political parties, votes on important legislation, the composition of congressional committees, race, religion, or ethnic background of congressmen, and dozens of other aspects. Just to present this information would have made an extremely valuable reference book, but its value is immeasurably enhanced by the 47 pages of introduction comprising part I which gives detail on the historical background of the atlas, the materials assembled by the W.P.A. project, the history of American congressional representation, roll-call voting behavior, and a most useful section on "mapping the geographical aspects of the United States Congress." The latter is a detailed discussion of a great many ways in which the basic geographical information of the Atlas could be applied to particular instances. There is a comprehensive "typology of the aspects of the United States Congress available for geographic illustration and analysis" and discussions and illustrations of various specific kinds of mapping. Two colored maps (one of which is reproduced on the dust jacket) are provided as examples of the kind of thematic maps which can be made using the base maps in the atlas. They are accompanied by detailed descriptions of the legislation and equally detailed discussion of the spatial pattern which emerges from the maps; together they comprise an excellent introduction to the possibilities of this kind of mapping. Historians and historical geographers working at the national, regional, and local levels will find here between two covers the basis for a great many evocative maps. Paired with information on roll-call votes compiled by

the *W.P.A.*, which is now available on computer tape from the Inter-University Consortium for Political Research at the University of Michigan, visual displays can be made of the votes on many crucial issues in American history. In fact, this volume is the first in a series of historical atlases the third of which, titled *The Atlas of Critical Votes in the United States Congress*, will map "the most important roll-call votes taken in the first two hundred years of the United States Congress." The second volume of the projected series will identify political party membership of all Congressmen from 1789 to 1987. Professor Martis has produced an indispensable reference work that will be around and heavily used for a long time to come. It is also, along the way, a tribute to the efforts of the often maligned but extremely fruitful Works Progress Administration. That a project of this scope and importance should emerge after thirty-five years of quiescence from a project instigated in the depths of the great depression is a tribute to the wisdom and hard work of the Historical Records Survey, *W.P.A.*

Microcartography: Applications for Archives and Libraries / edited by Larry Cruse, with the assistance of Sylvia B. Warren. Santa Cruz, California: Western Association of Map Libraries, 1981 [©1982]. Occasional Paper #6. (From Stanley D. Stevens, Treasurer, Western Association of Map Libraries, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz, California 95604).

Maps in microform (roll film, slides, fiche, and aperture cards) are becoming an ever more important resource in historical cartography collections. Despite the occasional difficulties of use, and general reader preference for paper maps, microforms make excellent sense in terms of their initial cost and the savings in space required for their storage. Most of the papers in the present volume derive from a WAML meeting in 1977, and the volume represents a good cross section of the state of the art at that time. There are contributions from commercial microfilming organizations, manufacturers of microfilming equipment, the National Map Collection of Canada and the National Archives of the United States. The papers range in complexity from a Defense Mapping Agency presentation on "Precision navigation filmstrips" for use on board aircraft, to R. Philip Hoehn's "Simple map microfilm program" as devised for use at the University of California-Berkeley. An annotated bibliography of 233 items (with its own index!) compiled by Cruse, completes the volume and brings the literature up to date. Readers should also know that Mr. Cruse contributes a regular column in the *Western Association of Map Libraries Information*

Bulletin dealing with microcartography that is a constant source of information on new products and techniques, including many items of interest to the historian of cartography. As a final fillip, a sample microfiche produced by Microchart Navigation Systems is included in a pocket at the back.

Mikoś, Michael J. *Early Maps of Poland (1508-1772) in the American Geographical Society Collection*. Milwaukee: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Printing Services, 1982. (From American Geographical Society Collection, Golda Mier Library, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53211)

This attractive catalog is a useful compendium of over 200 maps. The entries are arranged alphabetically by cartographer and supplemented with a geographical index. An essay on the history of Polish cartography provides a context for the collection. Illustrated with numerous black and white maps, views, cartouches, details, and a colored center plate.

Palmer, Margaret, revised and edited by R.V. Tooley. *The Mapping of Bermuda: a bibliography of printed maps and charts 1548-1970*. London: Holland Press Cartographica, 1983. (The Holland Press Limited, 37 Connaught Street, London W2 2AZ)

This is the third listing of printed maps and charts of Bermuda, emerging from Margaret Palmer's *The printed maps of Bermuda published in 1964*, and from the *Second Revised Edition of 1974*. The new edition has fuller listings than either of its predecessors, and is more attractively printed (except for the map-illustrations, which are slightly less clear than those of the 1964 edition). It is a pity, though, that the misnomer 'the mapping of Bermuda' has been chosen for its title, for this is simply another bibliography of printed maps and charts, albeit fuller than any published in the past.

Papenfuse, Edward C. and Joseph M. Coale III. *The Hammond-Harwood House Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland, 1608-1908*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982. (\$37.50, Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore MD 21218) Being both lavishly produced and modestly priced, this facsimile atlas is somewhat of a rarity in today's publishing market. Its 141 reproductions, both in color and black and white, are of fine quality and make for a most handsome volume. An extensive text provides a detailed history of the maps, their makers, and the times. The authors comment upon the origins, historical significance, and important cartographic features of each map. Many primary documents are cited and quoted from, adding to the reader's understanding of the mapping process. The atlas is a

very thorough and comprehensive examination of the state's cartography, and a must for historians and collectors interested in Maryland and its region.

Perry, T. M. *The Discovery of Australia: The Charts and Maps of the Navigators and Explorers*. Melbourne: Thomas Nelson Australia (P.O. Box 4725, Melbourne 3001), 1982. Aus \$60.00.

This is a condensed and readable account of Australia as it appears on maps, from the earliest medieval maps which postulated a southern continent to balance those in the north, through the early voyages of discovery, to the nineteenth-century land expeditions that opened up the Australian interior. The story is told entertainingly in a straight-forward chronological fashion, and is enlivened by (in fact, serves as a gloss on) the 85 plates which lavishly illustrate the volume. Many of these are in color and they are very well printed indeed. Virtually all of the very small place names are easily readable. Surprisingly the quality of reproduction of the black and white maps is considerably lower; some of these seem unaccountably blurry. Nonetheless, this is the first systematic survey of the entire spectrum of Australian cartography and it will be a very valuable source for collectors of Australiana, map librarians, and dealers alike.

This Remarkable Continent: An Atlas of United States and Canadian Society and Cultures / General Editors: John F. Rooney, Jr.; Wilbur Zelinsky, Dean R. Louder; Cartographic Editor, John D. Vitek. College Station, Texas: Texas A & M University Press, 1982 (\$45.00 from the Press, Drawer C, College Station, Texas 77843)

This remarkable atlas reproduces, from dozens of scattered sources, 387 maps and other graphics illustrating a wide variety of cultural phenomena. The ten sections, each edited by an expert geographer or folklorist, are: general cultural and popular regions, settlement, division of the land, structures, social organization and behavior, language and place names, ethnicity, religion, politics, foodways, music and dance, sports and games, and place perception. Here is a veritable feast for anyone who enjoys thinking about spatial distributions of cultural phenomena. There are plans of Indian pueblos, the distribution of town squares, Dutch barns in New Jersey, violent crimes in Seattle, the native tongue in the bilingual belt of Canada, the distribution of 'branch' in place names, religious diversity, environmental voting tendencies, the distribution of names of pancakes, the locations of white gospel quartet singing groups, origins of stock car drivers, and a Texan's map of the United States, to name only a few representative titles. Most of the maps were

previously published in dozens of journals, monographs, and newsletters, and by gathering them together within a coherent outline, the editors have done a real service to scholars and interested laymen. Each section has a two or three page introduction and the captions on the maps give more information, but the maps, for the most part, speak for themselves. They are all in black and white and very clearly reproduced. Some are more effective than others and some areas are, naturally enough, better represented than others. One of the "scratch atlases" which was circulated by the editors in the compilation of this volume, included a map showing the 'terra incognita'; the areas about which very little had appeared in the literature. It would have been nice if this map could have been included here. But that is a quibble. Armed with this atlas and a little imagination, one can pose a great many interesting questions and even answer some of them. One which has perhaps not been adequately explained is raised by map #10-4: Why does Wisconsin lead the nation in brandy consumption, consuming over 20% of the national total? As the editors conclude their introduction, "happy map ogling!"



Bosse, Where Are You When We Need You?

David Bosse, who edited *Mapline* for numbers 24 through 28, recently left the library to read for a master's degree in library studies at the State University of New York, Albany. The acting editors greatly miss his efficiency and skill.